

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 124484
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: S/S:PTARNOFF

APPROVED BY: S/S:PTARNOFF

-----281452Z 116137 /40

O 281421Z MAY 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 124484

NODIS

CHEROKEE

FOLLOWING REPEAT TOKYO 7908 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 28 MAY

QTE

S E C R E T TOKYO 7908

NODIS/CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: OTRA, JA, US, KS

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON KOREA: BROWN/HABIB MEETING WITH
PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA

1. FOLLOWING IS UNCLEARED MEMORANDUM OF BROWN/HABIB MEETING WITH
PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA MAY 28.

2. PRIME MINISTER OPENED CONVERSATION BY RECALLING THAT AT TIME
OF THEIR MEETING IN WASHINGTON, HE HAD CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT CARTER,
AT REQUEST OF SEVERAL ASIAN LEADERS, THEIR CONCERN WITH REGARD
TO ATTITUDE OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION TOWARD ASIA AND
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 124484

FOR POSSIBILITY THAT THERE WOULD BE SOME CHANGE IN US POLICIES
TOWARD REGION. HE HAD BEEN ASSURED BY PRESIDENT CARTER THAT THE US
WOULD HONOR ITS PLEDGE AND MAINTAIN ITS PRESENCE IN ASIA, AND
PRIME MINISTER HAD CONVEYED THAT MESSAGE TO VARIOUS ASIAN LEADERS.

3. FUKUDA ADDED THAT IN HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS LAST
MONTH, MARCOS ALSO HAD RAISED QUESTION OF ACTUAL US INTENTIONS CON-

CERNING ASIA AND NOTED NEED FOR HIM TO CONFIRM THOSE INTENTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH DECISIONS HE MUST MAKE ON BASE NEGOTIATIONS. PRIME MINISTER ALSO HAS LEARNED THAT PRIME MINISTER LEE KWAN YEW, WHO WILL BE VISITING TOKYO THIS COMING WEEK, HAS EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT GROUND FORCE WITHDRAWAL FROM KOREA, FOLLOWING US WITHDRAWAL FROM VIETNAM AND THAILAND, MAY SIGNIFY US INTENTION TO MOVE ITS FORWARD DEFENSE FROM THE CONTINENT TO THE OFFSHORE ISLANDS.

4. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT HE CITED THESE VIEWS AS ILLUSTRATING FACT THAT US GROUND FORCE WITHDRAWAL FROM KOREA IS BEING WATCHED WITH KEEN INTEREST BY ASIAN COUNTRIES. PARTICULARLY WITH REFERENCE TO ASEAN COUNTRIES, PRIME MINISTER REMARKED THAT DESPITE THEIR NEUTRAL POSTURE, ALL BASICALLY ATTACH GREAT VALUE TO CONTINUED US PRESENCE IN ASIA. PRIME MINISTER EXPRESSED HOPE, THAT US WOULD THEREFORE CONSIDER QUESTION OF GROUND FORCE WITHDRAWAL FROM KOREA IN BROAD CONTEXT OF CONCERNS OF ASEAN COUNTRIES AND WILL DEAL WITH PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN A MANNER WHICH WILL NOT ALARM THESE AND OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES.

5. IN RESPONDING, HABIB CONVEYED PRESIDENT CARTER'S BEST WISHES AND HIS DESIRE THAT HE AND GENERAL BROWN SPEAK FRANKLY, IN KEEPING WITH PRESIDENT'S DESIRE TO MAINTAIN FULLEST POSSIBLE EXCHANGE WITH PRIME MINISTER. HE THEN STATED THAT, FIRST, THE PRESIDENT WISHED AGAIN TO ASSURE THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE FIRM US DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN ITS COMMITMENT NOT ONLY TO THE SECURITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA BUT ITS OTHER BASIC COMMITMENTS IN EAST ASIA. NOTING THAT PRIME MINISTER UNDOUBTEDLY HAD BEEN BRIEFED ON OUR BASIC PROGRAM AS OUTLINED IN PREVIOUS SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 124484

MEETINGS WITH JAPANESE OFFICIALS, HABIB STRESSED THAT WE BELIEVE WE ARE ENGAGING IN GROUND FORCE WITHDRAWAL IN A PRUDENT FASHION, OVER A PERIOD OF TIME DURING WHICH COMPENSATING ACTIONS CAN BE TAKEN SO THAT THE DETERRANT CAPABILITY AND STRENGTH OF OUR COMMITMENT TO SECURITY OF ROK WILL BE CLEAR TO ANY ADVERSARY. HE NOTED THAT WE ARE APPROACHING THIS PROCESS OF WITHDRAWAL WITH CONFIDENCE AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WILL UNDERSTAND OUR INTENTIONS AND ASSIST IN INTERPRETING OUR ACTIONS TO OUR ASIAN FRIENDS. THE PRIME MINISTER NODDED IN AGREEMENT.

6. PRESIDENT CARTER, HABIB CONTINUED, BELIEVES THAT JAPAN CAN BE ESPECIALLY HELPFUL TO OUR EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN PEACE AND STABILITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND WISHED TO URGE JAPAN MOST STRONGLY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL STRENGTH OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA THROUGH ITS DECISIONS ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT AND BY THE WAY IN WHICH JAPAN PUBLICLY HANDLES ITS RELATIONS WITH NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA, RESPECTIVELY. THE US WILL DO WHAT IS NECESSARY TO PRESERVE SECURITY AND STABILITY ON THE KOREAN

PENINSULA AND WE HOPE THAT
IN THIS PROCESS MUTUAL INTERESTS OF JAPAN AND US WILL OPERATE
SIDE BY SIDE AND REINFORCE EACH OTHER. IN CONCLUDING, HABIB
ASSURED THE PRIME MINISTER THAT HE WOULD REPORT TO THE
PRESIDENT HIS VIEWS ON THE BROAD CONTEXT OF OUR
WITHDRAWAL ACTION SO THAT THESE CAN BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AND
SO THAT WE CAN TAKE ACTIONS AS MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO
SUSTAIN THE CONFIDENCE OF FRIENDLY ASIAN NATIONS IN OUR
CONTINUED PRESENCE IN EAST ASIA AND THE FIRMNESS OF OUR COMMIT-
MENTS.

7. THE PRIME MINISTER STATED THAT HE WAS MOST PLEASED TO RECEIVE
THIS MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER AND ASKED HABIB TO CONVEY TO
THE PRESIDENT THE FACT THAT HE SHARES HIS THINKING ON THIS MATTER.
HE THEN EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT US WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN
PRESIDENT PARK'S FULL UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION. HABIB
REPLIED THAT HE FELT PRESIDENT PARK UNDERSTANDS THE US POSITION
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 124484

AS WELL AS WHAT STEPS NOW MUST BE TAKEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH
GROUND FORCE WITHDRAWAL TO MAINTAIN THE MILITARY BALANCE ON
THE KOREAN PENINSULA AND INSURE THE SECURITY OF THE REPUBLIC
OF KOREA. HABIB ADDED THAT PRESIDENT PARK ALSO
HOPES THAT JAPAN WILL SHOW ITS UNDERSTANDING,
PARTICULARLY IN HANDLING ITS RELATIONS WITH THE ROK AND NORTH
KOREA. THE PRIME MINISTER REPLIED THAT HE HOPES FOR FINAL
APPROVAL OF THE ROK-JAPAN CONTINENTAL SHELF TREATY IN AN
EXTENDED SESSION OF THE DIET, THUS REMOVING A SOURCE OF
CONTENTION OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT HE
ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO STRENGTHENING AND IMPROVING
RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE ROK AND BELIEVES THAT
APPROVAL OF THIS TREATY WILL BE A SIGNIFICANT STEP IN THAT
DIRECTION.

8. IN CONCLUSION, PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA ASKED THAT WARM REGARDS
BE CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT CARTER.
SHOESMITH UNQTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CAT-A, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, TROOP REDUCTIONS, CHEROKEE 05/28/77, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, CHEROKEE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE124484
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S:PTARNOFF
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: N770003-0548
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977055/aaaaaekr.tel
Line Count: 157
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c1923d92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2493598
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULTATIONS ON KOREA: BROWN/HABIB MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA
TAGS: OTRA, PFOR, MARR, JA, US, KS, XB
To: WHITE HOUSE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c1923d92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009